Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 SS-15 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9678

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 ADDIS ABABA 3946

FROM AMBASSADOR FOR AF HARROP

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAID. XA

SUBJECT: FY 79 AND FY 80 BUDGETED ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 224147 (B) ADDIS 3754 (C) ADDIS 3765 (D) STATE 176327

1. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING FY 79 AND FY 80 AID AND PL 480 LEVELS ARE DETAILED IN PARAGRAPHS 3 - 9. MOST IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT LEVELS PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN REFTEL (A) DO NOT REPRESENT KEYSTONE OF OUR POLICY HERE: THAT WE WISH TO MAINTAIN A PRESENCE PURSUANT TO THE SCC DECISION OF APRIL 7, 1978. AID LEVELS MUST, THEREFORE, BE COMMENSURATE. (SWEDEN IS PROVIDING \$16 MILLION EQUIVALENT ANNUALLY PLUS \$5 MILLION ADDITIONAL IN RELIEF ASSISTANCE, AND THE WORLD BANK IS PROVIDING HIGH LEVELS OF SOFT TERM LOANS.) ECONOMIC AID IS OUR MAJOR INSTRUMENT IN HELPING TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS BY THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY AGOVERNMENT OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA (PMGSE) TOWARD TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT. THE VALUE OF OUR AID IS CONFIDENTIAL

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ENHANCED BY THAT FROM OTHER WESTERN SOURCES. SUCH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IS BECOMING EVER MORE NECESSARY AS THE ETHIOPIAN ECONOMIC SITUATION INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY CONTINUES TO WORSEN. THE SOVIETS WILL SOON BE IN THE POSITION OF DEMANDING PAYMENT FOR ARMS SUPPLIED WHILE THE WEST WILL BE ASSISTING THE HUNGRY POPULATION

AND FURTHERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIVING STANDARD OF THE POOR.

2. OTHER THAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE THERE ARE NO STRINGS TO OUR BOW, EXCEPT STRAIGHT DIPLOMATIC MEASURES. IF WE FAIL TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR FUNDAMENTAL GOALS HERE, THEN THE AID LEVELS PRESENTLY PROPOSED WILL BE EXCESSIVE, BUT IT SEEMS TO ME WE SHOULD WORK FOR THE TIME BEING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. FOR THAT REASON I BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT WE SHOULD PROCEED TO PLAN ON THE BASIS OF AT LEAST \$15 MILLION IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN FY 79 AND \$17 MILLION IN FY 80. AT THE PROPOSED PROGRAM TOTALS OF \$11.1 MILLION AND \$9.3 MILLION RESPECTIVELY, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO CONVINCE ETHIOPIANS THAT WE MEAN WHAT WE SAY AND THAT WE ARE ANXIOUS TO MAKE A REALLY SIGNIFICANT, AND NOT JUST TOKEN. CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE POOREST PEASANTS IN THE LAND.

3. FY 79 LEVEL REF (A) PARA 2.C. AGREES WITH THAT REQUESTED IN ETHIOPIA ABS FOR FY 1980. CONFIDENTIAL

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HOWEVER, AS INDICATED REFS (B) AND (C), USAID DOES NOT EXPECT TO OBLIGATE FY 78 FUNDS FOR THREE PROJECTS. TWO OF THESE (INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING (663-0188) AND GEMU GOFA (663-0193) HAVE FUNDING IN FY 79 WHICH WILL SUFFICE TO BEGIN PROJECTS IN FY 79.

THE OTHER AND MOST SIFNIFICANT, AG SECTOR DEVELOPMENT (663-0181), HAD \$10.0 MILLION FUNDING IN FY 78 BUT NOTHING REPEAT NOTHING IN FY 79. IF COMPENSATION ISSUE RESOLVED AND USAID ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH NEW PROJECTS IN FY 79, IT IS IMPERATIVE TO BEGIN AG SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. NOT TO DO SO, AFTER SOME ACTION UNDERTAKEN ON COMPENSATION, WOULD LOOK LIKE U.S. NOT LIVING UP TO ITS COMMITMENTS.

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FROM AMBASSADOR FOR AF HARROP

4. BUDGET PROPOSED FOR FY 79 AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ONGOING PROJECTS \$ ('00) (1) PULSES (663-0166) 400 (2) DIDESSA (663-0179) 500

- (B) NEW FY 79 PROJECTS
 - (1) RURAL ROADS (663-0182) 6,100
 - (2) AG PLANNING (663-0208) 600
 - (3) SEED MULTIPLICATION

(663-0212) 800

- (4) IMT (663-0188) I350
- (5) NFE (663-0189) 300
- (6) GEMU GOFA (663-0193) 950

TOTAL \$ 10,000

5. LEVEL OF \$11.1 MILLION LEAVES ONLY \$1.1 MILLION AVAILABLE AG SECTOR DEVELOPMENT. (ROADS PROJECT NEEDS \$6.1 MILLION FOR FIRST YEAR; THIS CANNOT BE REDUCED.) \$1.1 MILLION CLEARLY INSUFFICIENT TO BEGIN TOTAL PROJECT ESTIMATED AT \$92.6 MILLION, OF WHICH U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO BE \$21.1 MILLION. MINIMAL, REPEAT MINIMAL, BUT NOT DESIRABLE INPUT CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR FY 79 IS \$5 MILLION. THIS PUTS FY 79 LEVEL AT \$15 MILLION. (NOTE: TOTAL OF \$15 MILLION DOES NOT INCLUDE TWO PVOS THE FUNDING OF WHICH IS ADDITIVE TO OVERALL USAID BUDGET.)

6. REF (A) INDICATES FY 80 LEVEL SET AS

"MARK" FOR AFRICA BUREAU, HOWEVER, "MARK" FOR ETHIOPIA WAS \$17 MILLION NOT \$9.3 MILLION INDICATED REF (A). USAID HAS QUESTIONED THIS FIGURE REF (C), BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED RESPONSE. PROGRAMS AS PROPOSED FY 80 ABS DESIGNED FOR \$17 MILLION LEVEL ESTABLISHED AS MARK FOR ETHIOPIA BY AID/AFR. IF PROJECTS SIGNED IN FY 79 AS SCHEDULED, ONGOING BUDGET FOR FY 80 ALONE IS \$13.9 MILLION. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE PV S OR ANY NEW STARTS IN FY 80. USAID WOULD BE SEVERELY HAMPERED BY A CUT FROM \$17 MILLION TO \$9.3 MILLION IN FY 80. IF UNABLE TO INCREASE ETHIOPIAN ALLOCATION UNDER OVERALL MARK LEVEL FOR AID/AFR, STRNGLY SUGGEST ETHIOPIA BE INCLUDED IN "ENHANCEMENT" PACKAGE TO BRING ETHIOPIA AT LEAST TO \$17 MILLION.

7. PL 480 LEVELS FOR FY 80 REALISTIC AND SHOULD MAKE USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO ANTICIPATED ETHIOPIAN FOOD DEFICIT.

8. TITLE I: FY 80 LEVELS FOR TITLE I ACCEPTABLE. USAID BEGINNING TALKS WITH RRC CONCERNING USE OF TITLE III PROCEEDS BASED ON 25,000 MT WHEAT SORGHUM FOR PRIORITY REHABILITATION PROJECTS. PRESENT VALUE OF WHEAT PUTS 25,000 MT SLIGHTLY ABOVE 3 MILLION INDICATED REF (A), PARA 3B. CONFIDENTIAL

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STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT FUNDS SUFFICIENT FOR 25,000 MT BE ALLOCATED FROM TOTAL TITLE I PACKAGE.

9. TITLE II: USAID APPROVED LEVELS FOR FY 78
AND FY 79 DIFFER FROM THAT GIVEN REF A, PARA 3B.
PLANNED LEVEL FOR FY 78 WAS \$3.2 MILLION.
APPROVED LEVEL (REF D) FOR FY 79 WAS \$4.16 MILLION.
USAID ANTICIPATES TITLE II PROGRAM TO INCREASE
SLIGHTLY FROM APPROVED FY 79 LEVEL, THEREFORE
FY 80 \$4.9 MILLION ACCEPTABLE.

10. REGRET VERY MUCH DID NOT MAKE DEADLINE AS BELIEVED ESSENTIAL THAT NEW ACTING AID DIRECTOR MCCLOSKEY, WHO ARRIVED SEPTEMBER 5, REVIEW PRESENT PROGRAM AND MAKE INPUT. CHAPIN

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